REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 5.

Objection(s)

The drawings were objected to for failing to include the caption "Prior Art" in Figures 8 and 9. This objection is respectfully traversed. Applicants note that Figures 8 and 9 are not from any documents published at the time of filing of the instant application, but were instead created by the Applicants to demonstrate the *behavior* of related machines. No admission of prior art status of these figures is made in the specification. Therefore, because these drawings represent related art rather than prior art, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 2-3 and 6-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. To the extent this rejection applies to the amended claims, it is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2 and 6, as amended, recite the limitation "a set (Xαi, Zαi) of said offset data (Xα, Zα)." The offset data (Xα, Zα) represents the offset data recited in claims 1 and

5, respectively, while the "i" designation in the offset data ***set*** of amended claims 2 and 6 represents ***a particular set*** of offset data (i.e., the i'th set of offset data). Applicants believe that the amendments to claims 2 and 6 now provide the requisite antecedent basis, and clarify the present invention. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,839,943, issued to Stadtfeld ("Stadtfeld"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In one embodiment, the instant claims relate to a numerical control system for control of a cutting tool. As recited in independent claims 1 and 5, this system is utilized ***to perform a cutting*** by moving a turret of a cutting machine based on numerical data.

In contrast, Stadtfeld discloses a method for truing a cutting tool in which a cutting tool is mounted to the spindle of a truing apparatus and the actual position of a cutting surface of a cutting blade mounted in the cutting head is compared to a predicted position of the cutting surface to determine whether the position of the cutting blade requires adjustment. If the recorded position of a cutting side of the cutting blade is outside of a pre-set tolerance, the axial position of the cutting blade ***within the cutter head*** is adjusted (Col. 3, ll. 12-48). Stadtfeld neither discloses nor suggests the use of a numerical control system to perform a cutting, as recited in the instant claims.

In view of the above, Stadtfeld fails to show or suggest the present invention as recited in claims 1-7. Thus, claims 1-7 are patentable over Stadtfeld. Accordingly,

withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04995.053001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/20/04

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